Message Text

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FODAG

FOR IO FRANK FROM BAKER

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: FAO, UN

SUBJECT: FAO POST HARVEST LOSSES

REF: (A) ROME 18966 (B) BAKER/FRANK TELECON NOV 19

THERE FOLLOWS CHANGES NEGOTIATEDIN THE TWO RESOLUTIONS ON POST HARVEST LOSSES AND SPECIAL RESERVE ACCOUNT (REFTEL A).

2. PHL RESOLUTION, PARA 2 REFTEL A. A) NEW TITLE "PROGRAMME FOR PREVENTION OF FOOD LOSSES AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A SPECIAL FUND"; B) DELETE PREAMBULAR CLAUSES BEGINNING "HAVING REGARD" AND "CONSIDERING". C) ADD NEW SECOND PREAMBULAR CLAUSE "CONSIDERING THAT A PROGRAMME FOR PROVIDING FOOD LOSSES FINANCED FROM VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS FROM MEMBER NATIONS AND FROM EXTERNAL RESOURCES INCLUDING THOSE PROVIDED BY INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO THAT PURPOSE;" D) IN RECOGNIZING PARAGRAPH DELETE WORDS "TO BRING THE FUND TO" AND REPLACE WITH "TO REACH". E) CHANGE PARA 2.5 REFTEL TO READ "FURTHER URGES

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STRONGLY THOSE MEMBER NATIONS WHICH NEVERTHELESS REQUEST RETURN OF THE AMOUNTS DUE TO THEM UNDER RESOLUTION 35/75 TO MAKE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IN 1978 APPROPRIATE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FUND AND TO NOTIFY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THEIR INTENTIONS IN THIS REGARD SO THAT TIMELY PLANNING OF THE PROGRAMME MAY PROCEED;"

3. RESOLUTION ON SPECIAL RESERVE ACCOUNT HAS BEEN SUBSTANTIALLY CHANGED. FIRST CHANGE "FEASIBLE" TO "POSSIBLE" IN REFTEL PARA 3.4(A). SECOND, DELETE PARAS 3.4(C) AND 3.5. THIRD, ADD FOLLOWING PARAS: "4(C) SUBJECT TO PRIOR FINANCE COMMITTEE REVIEW AND COUNCIL APPROVAL, TO FINANCE UNBUDGETED EXTRA COSTS OF APPROVED PROGRAMMES DUE TO UNFORESEEN INFLATIONARY TRENDS, (TO THE EXTENT THAT SUCH COSTS CANNOT BE MET THROUGH BUDGETARY SAVINGS;) UP TO AN AMOUNT OF \$4 MILLION."

"T DECIDES THAT ANY BALANCE OF MONIES IN THE RESERVE ACCOUNT UP TO AN AMOUNT EQUIVALENT TO 2.5 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL EFFECTIVE WORKING BUDGET FOR THE ENSUING BIENNIUM SHALL BE CARRIED FORWARD INTO THE SPECIAL RESERVE ACCOUNT FROM YEAR TO YEAR."

"6. FURTHER DECIDES THAT:

(I) ANY BALANCE IN EXCESS OF THE AMOUNT REFERED TO IN PARA

5 ABOVE SHALL BE RETURNED TO THE GENERAL FUND AND ALLOCATED IN ACCORDANCE OF FINANCIAL REGULATION 6.1(B).

(II)(IN THE EVENT OF THE BALANCE AT THE END OF A BIENNIUM NOT ATTAINING THE LEVEL OF 2.5 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL EFFECTIVE WORKING BUDGET FOR THE ENSUING BIENNIUMGK THE DIRECTOR GENERAL SHOULD SUBMIT PROPOSALS TO THE CONFERENCE, THROUGH THE FINANCE COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL, ON THE FINANCIAL PROVISIONS NECESSARY TO BRING THE SPECAIL RESERVE ACCOUNT UP TO THE LEVEL OF 2.5 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL EFFECTIVE WORKING BUDGET.)"

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NEW PREAMBULAR PARAGRAPH IS EFFORT TO MAKE IFAD, WHOSE PRESIDENT-DESIGNATE IS UNHAPPY WITH ANOTHER ROME "FUND", MORE LIKELY
TO PARTICIPATE IN FUTURE POST HARVEST LOSSES ACTIVITY. IT
SHOULD ALSO HELP WITH UNDP AND IBRD.

NEW LANGUAGE FOR END OF SPECIAL RESERVE ACCOUNT ACCEPTS
DG'S DESIRE TO MAKE SPECIAL RESERVE ACCOUNT A REGULAR FEATURE
OF FAO FINANCING. THIS WAS IMPLICIT IN DRAFT SENT FORWARD FROM
JUNE FAO COUNCIL AND IS NOW EXPLICIT. G-77 ARE SUPPORTING DG
IN THIS AND HE WILL GET IT NO MATTER WHAT WE DO. THUS, WE
HAVE TRIED TO BUILD IN LIMITS: A LIMIT ON WHAT CAN USED FOR
INFLATION. A LIMIT ON WHAT CAN BE USED FOR FUTURE BIENNIA,
WHETHER THROUGH CARRY FORWARD (NEW PARA 5) OR BUDGETARY SOURCES
(NEW PARA 6(II)
WE HAVE BRACKETED 6(II) AND ADG WEST WITH G-77 SUPPORT HAS
THEREFORE BRACKETED PART OF 4C. OUR POSITION IS THAT IF WE

4. COMMENT: PHL RESOLUTION HAS WORKED OUT WELL IN OUR VIEW.

WE HAVE BRACKETED 6(II) AND ADG WEST WITH G-77 SUPPORT HAS THEREFORE BRACKETED PART OF 4C. OUR POSITION IS THAT IF WE AGREE TO 6II, G-77 WILL LIFT BRACKETS FROM 4C. WE WILL CONSIDER REF B AS AUTHORITY TO MAKE THIS SWAP UNLESS OTHERWISE INFORMED BY OPENING OF BUSINESS ROME TIME NOV. 21. WHILE 6II CAN POTENTIALLY COMMIT US TO A BUDGETARY ELEMENT FOR A FUTURE BIENNIUM, IT DOES NOT COMMIT US TO ANY SPECIFIC SUMS. WE

BELIEVE THAT IF WE OMIT THIS AND IF SPECIAL RESERVE ACCOUNT WINDS UP WITH LESS THAN 2.5 PERCENT OF 1980-81 BUDGET IN IT, DG WOULD, EVEN WITHOUT THIS PARAGRAPH, SEEK AND OBTAIN FINANCE COMMITTEE, COUNCIL, AND CONFERENCE AGREEMENT FOR A SPECIAL RESERVE ACCOUNT FOR 1980-81 BIENNIUM AT THIS LEVEL AT LEAST. THEREFORE, ONCE SPECIAL RESERVE ACCOUNT'S CONTINUATION IS ESTABLISHED, WE SEE ADVANTAGE IN ESTABLISHING ITS LIMITS. HOLMES

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